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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 7,177,434  
Issued: February 13, 2007  
Application No. 10/053,096  
Filed: January 18, 2002  
Attorney Docket No: STB-3.2.005/4271

**ON PETITION**

This is a decision regarding your request for acceptance of a fee deficiency submission and loss of small entity status filed February 14, 2007 under 37 CFR 1.28.

On September 1, 1998, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit held that 37 CFR 1.28(c) is the sole provision governing the time for correction of the erroneous payment of the issue fee as a small entity. See DH Technology v. Synergystex International, Inc., 154 F.33d 1333, 47 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. Sept. 1, 1998).

The Office no longer investigates or rejects original or reissue applications under 37 CFR 1.56. 1098 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 502 (January 3, 1989). Therefore nothing in this Notice is intended to imply that an investigation was done.

Your fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28 is hereby accepted and the petition is **GRANTED**. Status as a small entity has also been removed.

Inquiries related to this communication should be directed to the Office of Petitions Staff at (571) 272-3282.

Patricia Faison-Ball  
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